



From mud to monument



courtesy photo

This statue, designed by Yokota High School Art Teacher Gary Jacketti and worked on by about 50 high school students, will soon become a monument to U.S. and Japanese friendship. Students added more than 500 pounds of clay to the frame built by Jacketti. The statue is now being bronzed in Mizuho and will soon stand in the middle of Friendship Boulevard. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for the Tomodachi statue May 30 at 2:30 p.m. across from the Skills Development Center.

Who said there's nothing to do at Yokota AFB?!?!?

By Colonel Mark Zamzow
374th Airlift Wing commander

Hey kids, did you know that even *your* parents used to say "There's nothing to do around here" when they were kids too?

Well, I'll tell you what: even though that phrase will never, ever completely vanish from our language, nothing could be further from the truth here at Yokota!

Sorry, but I never get tired of saying that Yokota is the Premier Base in PACAF! Most people think

I'm only talking about the great facilities and quality of life enhancements we enjoy, the "can-do" attitudes and "people-oriented" approaches our folks employ, and the excellent manner in which we accomplish our missions and support the WESTPAC theater. No, our "Good Culture" is much more than that, especially with regards to how we focus on our Youth. Yokota really is a paradise for our kids to grow, learn, and thrive!

You've all heard about David Letterman's "Top Ten" lists, well below is my version times three with applications to Yokota's youth:

Top 10 activities our youth can enjoy on base

- Youth competitive sports and cheerleading
- Teen Center, Youth Center, fitness and rec. centers
- Playgrounds, swimming pools, golf courses and athletic fields
- Basketball courts, tennis courts, bowling alley
- Bike paths, skate park, horseback riding, camping, paint ball range
- Chapel activities, library activities, movie theater
- Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts
- Piano lessons, karate lessons, gymnastics lessons
- Summer school
- Youth Summer Camp

Top 10 activities our youth can enjoy off base

- Trip to a water park (discount tickets at Yujo)
- Trip to Disneyland (discount tickets at Yujo)
- Trip to a Pro Baseball game (discount tickets at Yujo)
- Trip to a Sumo Wrestling match (discount tickets at Yujo)
- Trip to a Snow Ski mountain (see Outdoor Rec.)
- Sightsee at local community festivals (see Yujo)
- Sightsee at major tourist attractions (see Yujo)
- Visit Hamura Zoo or Ueno Zoo (see Yujo)
- Ride bike or take train to Showa Park (see Yujo)
- Take a hike along Tama River or in the foothills

Top 10 things adults can do with/for our youth

- Assist a classroom teacher (see DoDDS)
- Coach or assist a school sports team (see DoDDS)
- Lead or assist a school club (see DoDDS)
- Join a school's Parent Teacher Organization (DoDDS)
- Join a school's School Advisory Council (DoDDS)
- Coach a youth sports team (see Services Division)
- Volunteer at Teen or Youth Center (see Services)
- Be a parent leader for Scouts
- Volunteer for the base chapel's youth activities
- Umpire/referee for sports competitions

There's my list of 30 (sorry I cheated and occasionally put multiple things on one line). And I know you can think of items I forgot to include too!

Don't forget though – all these "great happenings" for our youth don't just happen without a lot of dedicated people making it happen!

Teachers, administrators, coordinators, volunteers, instructors, coaches, parents and singles. Please be a part of it: help us out and make our youth development programs even stronger!

So, there's nothing to do at Yokota?!?!?!? Give me a break — open your eyes, lend a hand, get involved and have a blast!!!

Yokota High School adopts seminar program

By Lee A. Kirsch
Yokota High School principal

When most Yokota High School parents went to high school, they probably had a stress-producing schedule that consisted of six or seven classes with five minutes passing time between classes. That meant six or seven classes, one right after the other, with barely enough time to go to the bathroom and 30-40 minute lunch. Students simply

didn't have any quality time to reflect and absorb information; nor did they have time to get individual or small group help from a teacher or to make up a test.

In order to provide a better delivery model for instruction, most high schools today offer block scheduling with a seminar period. Block scheduling simply means longer class periods meeting every other day so that students have fewer classes each day. We have had block scheduling at YHS for the past three years and it has found favor with

both students and teachers.

Next year a seminar period of 60 minutes, meeting once each week, will be "created" by shortening each class by several minutes.

Seminar is a time when students can get tutoring from teachers, and mentoring from adult volunteers or honor society members. It is a time when students can form SAT

PLAN

For the Future



High School

May 5 – The Yokota High School Junior-Senior Prom will be held at the New Sanno Hotel in downtown Tokyo. Buses are slated to run to the New Sanno from the high school starting at 3 p.m., and the festivities kick off at 6 p.m. For information on tickets and prices, contact Daniel Lorenz at 225-4804 or Jennifer Lorenz at 225-7018.

May 7-10 – Registration hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Yujo Recreation Center. All returning students must be re-registered for SY 2001-2002. Please bring to registration: a copy of the sponsor's extension letter (if applicable), immunization records, a signed SD Form 600 (make corrections or changes to pre-printed form). For more information, call Ulett Benson at 225-7018.

May 9 – The Yokota High School Junior ROTC Panther Battalion is having its annual formal inspection. During the day there will be an inspection at the middle school bus parking lot and a parade at 1:30 p.m. at Darling Field. The Yokota community is welcome to attend the parade of cadets.

May 22 – The Yokota High School branch of the National Honor Society will hold their annual spring induction at the officers' club. The ceremony will begin sometime in the evening and refreshments will be served. An exact time is to be announced soon. Contact Kathryn Flynn at 225-7018 for details.

June 8 – The Class of 2001 will graduate at 6:30 p.m. in the Fussa City Hall. Everyone is invited.



West Elementary

May 4 – Nihon Matsuri, Japan culture exchange activity.

May 7-10 – YWES first- fifth grade registration week, in front office.

May 7 – 8:30 to 11 a.m. A-D, 1 to 3 p.m. E-I.

May 8 – 8:30 to 11 a.m. J-M, 1 to 3 p.m. N-Q.

May 9 – 8:30 to 11 a.m. R-U, 1 to 3 p.m. V-Z.

May 10 – 8:30 to 11 a.m. make up day for A-N, 1 to 3 p.m. make up day for O-Z.

May 7 – Kanda art presentation, skills of block printing, 9 to 10 a.m.

May 7 – Science fair parents night.

May 7-10 – Technology Leadership Team workshop for YWES.

May 7-11 – Teacher Appreciation Week.

May 10 – Kindergarten portfolio night for parents, 5 to 6 p.m.

May 11 – Kindergarten tea for parents, during the day.

May 11 – YWES kindergarten registration, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

May 23 – Sorroban contest and ceremony for students at 9:30 a.m. in the New Sanno.

May 24 – YWES kindergarten field day.

May 25 – Field day for YWES students.

June 7 – Last day for Sure Start students at YWES.

June 8 – Kindergarten culmination activities and picnic.

June 12 – Softball game between 5th and 6th grade students and faculty, Synder Field 12:30 p.m.

June 12 – Last day of school for pre-school for children with disabilities students.

June 13 – PSCD picnic.

June 13 – Culmination activities for 5th and 6th grade students at the Taiyo Recreation Center at 9 a.m.

June 14 – Teacher work day, no students will attend school.

June 15 – Last day of school for students and teacher. School close-out day.

Aug. 27 – First day of school for students.



East Elementary

May 7-11 – Pre-registration for School Year 2001-2002 in the conference room from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 2:30 p.m.

May 10 – Field Day at Friendship Field for grades 1 – 3.

May 11 – Field Day at Friendship Field for grades 4 – 6.

May 16 – School-wide spelling bee from 5 to 8 p.m. in the media center.

May 17-18 and May 24-25 – Third grade overnight field trips to Mount Fuji.

May 18 – Health and Fitness Day.

May 21 – SIP Inservice, early dismissal of students at 10:45 a.m. Focus of this inservice will be on cross grade articulation and student placement for SY 01-02.

May 22 – Band/choir concert in the media center at 6:30 p.m.

May 25 – Field Day at Friendship Field for kindergarten.

May 31 – Volunteer reception with Col. Mark Zamzow, 374th Airlift Wing commander, for all the volunteers at the school from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the media center.

June 15 – Last day of school.

Middle School

May 7-10 – Registration for School Year 2001-2002 at the Yujo Recreation Center, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

May 11 – School participation at the Spouses Call meeting in the Taiyo Recreation Center from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

May 21-22 – Scoliosis screening, coordinated by the school nurse.

May 22 – Parent Teacher Organization meeting at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

May 23 – School Improvement Faculty meeting; 11:30 a.m. start for students.

May 24 – Spring band concert at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

May 28 – Memorial Day. No school for students and teachers.

May 29 – Wild Zappers concert (visiting dance troupe from Gallaudet University).

May 30 – National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony at 6 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

June 8 – Field day.

August 20-24 – Tentative orientation for students new to Yokota Middle School.



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or Advanced Placement study groups, practice for an upcoming concert or drama festival or make up/retake a test. Seminar is designed to be tutorial in nature; it is instructional time when teachers are working directly with kids to enhance learning.

The schedule for next year will look like this:

Period 1 — 7:30 to 9:08 a.m., 98 minutes;

Passing — 8 minutes;

Period 2 — 9:16 to 10:52 a.m., 96 minutes;

Lunch — 10:52 to 11:46 a.m., 54 minutes;

Period 3 — 11:46 a.m. to 12:46 p.m., 60 minutes;

Seminar one day per week during this timeframe — day to be determined.

Passing — 8 minutes;

Period 4 — 12:54 to 2:30 p.m., 96 minutes.

May

Camp Adventure 2001: Camp Adventure is a well-rounded summer program offering children and/or adolescents an opportunity to engage in a variety of age appropriate recreational activities that foster the mental, social, and physical well-being of each child and assists youth in overcoming the stress of relocation and adjustment to new peer groups. Activities include swimming, bowling, arts and crafts, field trips and more. This program will be offered for 10 weeks beginning June 18. Parents may register only for the weeks they desire. Registration will be open to all SOFA-sponsored residents. Register at the East Youth Center May 15-29. For more information, call 225-6397.

Camp Journey, 2001: Building friendships, developing leadership and enhancing life skills, learning to trust, and just having fun. This program has been created for children and/or adolescents and teens (ages 9 to 15). It will be offered through Boys and Girls Club of Yokota Tsubasa Youth Center (East). This program will consist of two two-week sessions, and one three-week session. Registration will be open to all residents who are SOFA sponsored. Register at the East Youth Center from May 15-29. For more information, call Benny Luck at 225-7441.

Registration for flag football and cheerleading: For ages 5 to 15 is May 16 to July 2 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the east youth center. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Sakana Pool grand opening: "Stars on the Water" is May 25 from 6 to 10 p.m. There will be contests, music and light refreshments. Free for all members of the community.

Fujiyu Highland Amusement Park trip for teens: May 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Price to be announced. For more information, call 225-6793.

Joy Polis indoor game park trip for youth: May 26 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021 or 225-6397.

I Scream Social: Free ice cream for everyone to kick off the start of summer from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 28 at the north side pool. T-Shirts will be given to those souls brave enough to swim the chilly waters of the outdoor pool.

Toshimaen Amusement Park trip for teens: May 28 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$15. For more information, call 225-6793.

June

Chess Club: June 1 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

Pool Challenge: June 4 at 4 p.m. in the youth centers.

2001 Summer Reading Program "Where in the World are you Reading?" Sign up for exciting adventures in reading! Pick up your passport at the kick-off party June 9 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the library conference room. Read 10 books or have someone read to you for 10 hours, before Aug. 11, and receive a surprise packet with prizes and gifts. The more you read, the more stamps you earn on your "passport." For more information, call 225-7490.

Dance talent night: June 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

Smart Moves: June 13 at 3:30 p.m. in the Teen Center.

Farewell to Grads Party: June 15 at the Teen Center. Grads are free, members \$3 and non-members are \$5.

Laser bowling: June 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. for youths. For more information, call 225-7021.

International Weekend at Tokyo Summerland Water Adventure Park: Experience Adventure Lagoon and all the fun this near-by park has to offer June 30 and July 1, 7 and 8 only. Starting in June, services facilities will have free tickets for this water and amusement park during their celebration of International Weekend. These tickets are good for one to three people to enter the park and free use of the indoor and outdoor pools. For more information, call 225-3308.



Friendship Festival: The annual Friendship Festival is when we welcome our host country onto the base and share in two days of fun and companionship. This year's festival is June 30 to July 1 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. There will be many attractions including booths inside and out side the hangar with food, souvenirs, and games with prizes. Aircraft from Yokota's inventory will also be on display. Entertainment is also provided with a live band, clown, magician and much more. For more information, call 225-2032.

East Meets West chess tournament: June 30 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

July

Flag football clinic: July 2-6. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Independence Day Celebration: Promises to be one of Yokota's most enjoyable patriotic events, incorporating music, food, contests, games and prizes for the whole community. Activities will be held at Hangar 15 and the Natatorium. Events start at 8 a.m. with the 5K family fun run/walk and ends with a grand finale fireworks spectacular at 8 p.m.

5K family fun run/walk: Kick off Independence Day with a Bang at the Firecracker Family Fun Run. The race starts at 8 a.m. near the Natatorium. T-Shirts will be given to the first 200 signed up. Sign up at the Main Fitness Center.

Cardboard Boat Regatta: Design and build a person-powered boat entirely of cardboard and duct tape. Boat building will start at 9 a.m. July 4 and the race starts at 11 a.m. First prize for youth entry is \$100. Prizes for the most outstanding boat, most team spirit, and most spectacular sinking.

Outhouse Obstacle Race: Build an outhouse, and race it through challenging, hilarious obstacles. First prize is \$500. Call 225-7713 for rules, guidelines, and sign-up information. Sign up by June 29.

Kids coloring contest: Pick up entries at the Natatorium, library, east or west youth centers for the coloring contest. Entries must be submitted to the Natatorium before June 29. Winners will be announced on the 4th of July.

Summerland Water Adventure Park teen trip: July 5 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$15.

Water Wars: July 7 at 2 p.m. at the East Youth Center.

Let's Make a Dreamcatcher: Enjoy a story about Native Americans and their use of dreamcatchers to catch harmful dreams, then make your own dreamcatcher to take home with you. July 11 from 3 to 4 p.m. in the base library conference room. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Dance talent night: July 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

Nintendo Challenge: July 16 at 4 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

Registration for soccer: For ages 5-15 is July 17 to Aug. 24 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the east youth center. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Laser bowling: July 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Baseball clinic: July 23-27. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

August

Animals from exotic India: Youths can listen to stories from India and make up there own "walking" animal. Aug. 2 from 3 to 4 p.m. in the base library conference room.

National Kids Day celebration: Aug. 4 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the East Youth Center.

Pool challenge: Aug. 6 at 4 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

Flag football begins: Aug. 6. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Cheerleading begins: Aug. 6. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Cheerleading clinic: Aug. 6-31. For more information, call the youth center at 225-7021.

Water Wars: Aug. 10 at 2 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

Youth dance: Aug. 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the East Youth Center. Cost is \$1.

Shimoda beach trip for teens: Aug. 11 from 3:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Cost is \$10. Sign up at the Teen Center.

Laser bowling: Aug. 18 from 6 to 9 p.m. Sign up at the East Youth Center.

Back to school party: Aug. 25 at the Teen Center. There will be a D.J., food and door prizes. Cost is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members.

East Meets West chess tournament: Aug. 25 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Youth Center.

Splash Splash End of Summer Bash: There will be music, food, games, prizes and fun to say good-bye to summer from noon to 6 p.m. Aug. 25 in the Natatorium. Free to the entire community.

September

Dog Days of Summer: Bring your dog swimming for the day, and enjoy free hotdogs and dog treats from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 3 at the north side pool. Purchase your commemorative T-shirt and help raise funds for Yokota's Stray Pet Adoption Center.



All summer

Laser Tag: Experience the thrills and chills of this hot new game in the teen center. Before 3 p.m., this game is available to all age groups. Laser tag is \$4 per person. There is a maximum of 12 players for 30 minutes. Call 225-6793 for more information or reservations.

Aquatics: Yokota has three pools to serve you this summer. Swimming lessons are available all summer, for all ages and every ability level. Springboard diving lessons are also available.

Anything Floats family Friday nights: Bust out with your rafts, inner tubes and other fun inflatables (please no canoes, kayaks or surfboards) for a fun night of family swimming Friday nights from 6 to 10 in the Natatorium.

Moonlight Mondays: Enjoy evening swims at our newest facility from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday nights at the Sakana pool.

Monday night at the movies: Every other Monday in the Teen Center Theater Room.

Pool and foosball tournaments: Every Tuesday at the Teen Center.

Fine Arts Club: Every Tuesday in the East Youth Center.

Art Club: Every Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Teen Center.

Hands-on Science: Every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the youth center.

D.J. variety nights dance for teens: Every Friday 6 p.m. to midnight in the Teen Center.

Photo Club: Every Saturday at 3 p.m. in the Teen Center.

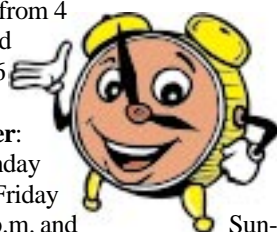
Cooking Club: Every Sunday at 1 p.m. in the youth centers.

Hours

Teen Center: Monday through Thursday from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 4 to 10:30 p.m., closed Sunday, and open holidays from noon to 6 p.m.

Tsubasa (East) Youth Center: While school is in session: Monday through Thursday 2 to 7 p.m., Friday 2 to 9 p.m., Saturday noon to 9 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m. During the summer: Monday through Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Friday 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday noon to 9 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

Wakamono (West) Youth Center: While school is in session: Monday through Friday 2 to 7 p.m., Saturday noon to 7 p.m. and closed Sunday. During the Summer: Monday through Saturday noon to 7 p.m. and closed Sunday.



Saved By The BELL

Thank your educators during Teacher Appreciation Week Monday through May 12.



Yokota East Elementary School staff



Yokota West Elementary School staff



Yokota Middle School staff



Yokota High School staff

